

MINUTES AND REPORT

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MEETING OF COUNCIL

THE CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday 18th April 1983, commencing 4.35pm.

1. PRESENT

Mr. J. N. Black  
Mr. A. A. Dash  
Mr. A. A. Gill  
Mr. E. J. Long  
Mr. B. H. Macintosh  
Mr. J. Mitchell  
Mr. J. F. Rigby  
Mr. M. Rundle  
Mr. G. J. Simm  
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson

Chairman

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Executive Officer

In attendance:

Mr. B. Greer

Business Adviser, Community Employment  
Co-operative Development Programme

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 21st March 1983, having been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record subject to amendment of the word "engineer" in line 4 of Minute 3.ii to read "enquirer". The minutes were adopted.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.i Minute 3.iii Membership of The Co-operative Insurance Company of Australia Ltd.

The Chairman advised that the Registrar has issued a certificate under Section 49(2) of the Co-operation Act 1981 authorising the admittance into membership of Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd. of The Co-operative Insurance Company of Australia Ltd.

3.ii Minute 6 Fidelity Guarantee

Council was advised that in accordance with Regulation 75 of the Co-operative Societies (General) Regulations 1982 the Fidelity Guarantee Policy in respect of the

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Executive Officer previously in the name of Co-operative Federation of Australia Inc. has been transferred to the name of

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd.

3.iii Minute 8

Victorian Trading Co-operative Association

Mr. Long reported that the Annual General Meeting of this Association is due to be held in May 1983. The matters raised in Minute 8 of the April Council meeting will be dealt with then and a report given to the next meeting of the Council.

3.iv Minute 9.iv

Co-operatives in Schools

The Executive Officer reported an appointment has been made for a Research person to undertake studies in developing programmes for formation of practical Co-operatives in T.A.F.E. Colleges in Victoria. Mr. Rawlinson has been invited to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed to supervise this research programme.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.i From C.O.S.B.O.A. via C.F.A. April newsletter.

4.ii From C.O.S.B.O.A. - submission to National Economic Summit Conference.

4.iii From A.F.C.U.L. - submission to National Economic Summit Conference.

Correspondence was received on the motion of Mr. Gill  
seconded by Mr. Simm

5. FINANCIAL

Statement of Income and Expenditure in respect of the Co-operative Federation including funds supplied by Government for the Employment Co-operative Development Programme for 1.7.82 to 31.3.83 and estimated Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1983 were presented, discussed and received

on the motion of Mr. Rundle  
seconded by Mr. Gill

6. 1983 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Council considered a draft programme in which Senator John Button, leader in the Federal Parliament Senate was included as official opener. As an alternative to Senator Button Council advanced the name of Mr. Race Mathews, State Minister for Police and Arts.

After general discussion the programme, as set out at Appendix 'A' of these minutes, was agreed.

Council noted the increased cost commitment involved with inviting Dr. Downey and small concluding social function and resolved

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REPORTS

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(i) That a registration fee of \$50 per head for one delegate  
with fee of \$30 per head for additional nominations from  
the same organisation be charged.

(ii) That in the event of costs not being covered by nomination  
fees then an approach be made to selected member  
Co-operatives for funds to cover the deficiency.

Moved Mr. Simm  
Seconded Mr. Gill

7. WINDING UP CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

Council agreed that as affiliation dues of members are paid to 30th June 1983 that  
both the incorporated and unincorporated bodies operate to 30th June 1983.

On the motion of Mr. Rigby  
seconded by Mr. Gill

Council resolved that

*The Co-operative Federation of Victoria be wound up  
as at 30th June 1983 and all assets and liabilities  
be transferred to Co-operative Federation of  
Victoria Ltd. as at that date.*

8. REPORTS

8.i

Community Employment Co-operative Development Programme

A discussion paper on short and medium term developments in the  
Advisory Units of the Programme was presented.

Mr. Greer indicated the views of the funded Co-operatives are for  
the establishment of a Co-operative Development Agency under their  
control outside the auspices of the Co-operative Federation but  
seeking affiliation with the Federation.

The immediate need of the Business Advisory Unit is for an increase  
in staff of one. Formal authority for this appointment has not  
yet been granted but such a staff addition would require the Business  
Advisory Unit to seek alternative accommodation.

The Council expressed no objection to this proposal but, on the  
motion of Mr. Rundle  
seconded Mr. Macintosh,

Resolved

*The Co-operative Federation of Victoria should  
remain in its present location for the foreseeable  
future.*

On the matter of future auspices of a Co-operative Development Agency,  
if formed, the special needs of such an agency and the suitability of

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direction from the Council of Victoria with its broad spread of Co-operative activity membership and its relations with the national body, Council agreed

*A joint meeting be held between three representatives of the funded Employment Co-operatives and three representatives of the Co-operative Federation to discuss future action on auspices of the Programme with a view to firm recommendations being submitted to Council for consideration and development of Council policy for submission to the Ministry Employment and Training.*

The Federation Council members were nominated as Messrs. Long; Rundle and the Executive Officer.

8.ii

Co-operative Societies Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported this Council met on 14th April 1983 and was chaired by Mr. W. Kilpatrick who has been appointed Acting Registrar to succeed Mr. Jungwirth. The Co-operative Societies Registry has been allocated to the new Legal and Registry Division of the Ministry of Housing.

The Minister's Legislative Review Committee has prepared a Discussion Paper, related to administration of Co-operative Societies, the continuing role of the Advisory Council and legislation, for circulation to Co-operative organisations, Trade Unions and all likely interested bodies. Amendment submissions on the Co-operation Act will be deferred presentation to Cabinet pending consideration of feed-back from this discussion paper.

The Advisory Council considered the paper submitted by Mr. Rawlinson on Promotion of Co-operation.

The Council was informed that in line with the revised programme budgetting by Government, application has been made for funds for utilisation by the Advisory Council. It is anticipated use of funds in respect of promotion of Co-operation will be vested in Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd.

Mr. Long also reported the case of a shareholder of a Co-operative, for which a Government Guarantee had been provided, obtaining legal support for his denial of his reputed shareholding liability due to inadequate completion of share application forms.

On the motion of Mr. Long  
seconded by Mr. Rundle  
Council resolved that

*A letter of appreciation for his services be sent  
to the former Registrar, Mr. Jungwirth*

Council also agreed

*That following consideration of the Legislative Review  
Committee Discussion Paper, a meeting of Council  
representatives be sought with the new Registrar.*

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Co-operative Federation of Australia

The Chairman advised that after payment of all dues and receipt of subscriptions from all members a deficit is likely in the affairs of the Co-operative Federation of Australia as at 30th June 1983. The extent of the deficit is yet to be determined and is proposed to be met by equal apportionment amongst the five State Federation members.

The Co-operative Federation of Western Australia has informally advised of its unwillingness to accept responsibility for administering the national secretariat.

Council reiterated its decision at the March Council Meeting that it is not economically feasible for the Co-operative Federation of Victoria to continue its administration of the national secretariat after 30th June 1983 and that Western Australia, in the first place, be so formally advised.

8.iv

Executive Officer

Mr. Rawlinson reported he had been invited to participate in a Co-operative promotion meeting in Flemington sponsored by the Macauley Community Credit Union.

9.

FUTURE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

Mr. Long reported that he had had one meeting with Mr. Slattery when a possible budget to 30th June 1984 had been considered as had development of services in development of co-ordinated insurance services for Co-operatives in Victoria through the Federation. That meeting proposed initiatives to promote Central Banking services for Co-operatives in Victoria. Mr. Macintosh reported he and Mr. Simm had undertaken studies of better buying of fuel for Co-operatives in the Gippsland region. It was agreed the study should be extended to a State wide basis with personal approach following a uniform form of questionnaire. Mr. Simm agreed to provide a draft questionnaire.

Mr. Simm recommended the Executive Officer make contact with the Snowy River Sweet Corn Co-operative (Manager: John Winter).

10.

NEXT MEETING

Council set Monday, 16th May 1983 as the date of its next meeting. Note was taken of the apologies of Messrs. Dash and Rundle for inability to attend that meeting.

11.

CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.30 p.m.

*John Slattery* 16.5.83

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